

## DETAILED ACTION

### EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Greg Johnson (59,027) on February 9, 2009.

The application has been amended as follows:

2. **Claim 1:** In a [[user's]] computer system, a method for sending from the [[user's]] computer system a user policy-controlled automated response to an information transfer request from a requesting computing system, the method comprising: setting a user policy controlled by [[the]] a user, the user policy defining parameters for use in controlling an automated reply to information transfer requests from the requesting computing system; receiving the information transfer request from the requesting computing system; applying parameters of the user policy to the information transfer request to allocate a response and to set a response level based on the user policy in order to provide the user policy-controlled automated response to the requesting computing system; and delegating the response based on the response level and sending the response to the requesting computing system, wherein the act of

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delegating and sending the response comprises at least one of sending an unqualified response based on a first response level where the unqualified response is a complete response having no restrictions on use of transferred information; and sending a qualified response based on a second response level where the qualified response is a partial response with restrictions on the use of the transferred information, wherein the act of sending the qualified response comprises: detecting if use restrictions are to be included with the response sent to the requesting computing system, and attaching a restricted use policy to the response sent to the requesting computing system, the use policy controlling use and further distribution of the response by the requesting computing system.

3. **Claim 6** is cancelled.

4. **Claim 8:** The method of claim 1 wherein the response is authorization for the requesting computing system to send information to the [[user's]] computing system.

5. **Claim 9:** The method of claim 8 further comprising: delegating the response based on the response level and sending the response with a notification of restrictions on receipt of the information by the [[user's]] computing system, the restrictions being based on the response level.

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6. **Claim 10:** A policy engine system stored in a computer readable storage medium in a computing cell phone for controlling automated responses from the computing cell phone to a requesting computing system, the controlled automated responses being based on a user policy specified by a user of the computing cell phone, the policy engine system comprising: a set policy module controlled by the user for entering and updating the user policy and response information; a database storing the user policy and response information; an apply policy module applying parameters of the user policy to information transfer requests from the requesting computing system and filtering stored response information to create a filtered response for the requesting computing system based on the parameters of the user policy; and a delegate response module sending the filtered response along with a use policy to the requesting computing system, wherein sending the filtered response comprises at least one of: sending an unqualified response based on a first response level where the unqualified response is a complete response having no restrictions on use of transferred information; and sending a qualified response based on a second response level where the qualified response is a partial response with restrictions on the use of the transferred information, wherein the act of sending the qualified response comprises: detecting if use restrictions are to be included with the response sent to the requesting computing system, and attaching a restricted use policy to the response sent to the requesting computing system, the use policy controlling use and further distribution of the response by the requesting computing system.

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7. **Claim 15:** The system of claim 10, wherein the apply policy module comprises: retrieving policy parameters of the user policy from the database; a compare module comparing the policy parameters to request parameters in the information transfer request from the requesting computing system; an allocate module generating the filtered response based on a match between policy parameters and request parameters; and a compile module building the filtered response and a response level to pass to the delegate response module.

8. **Claim 19:** A computer storage medium ~~media~~ for storing computer instructions for a computer process for sending from a [[user's]] computer system a personal, policy-controlled automated response to an information transfer request from a requesting computing system, the computer process comprising: receiving the information transfer request from the requesting computing system; applying parameters of a user policy exclusively controlled by the user to the information transfer request to compile a response and a response level based on the user policy; and sending the response to the requesting computing system based on the response level in order to provide the personal, policy-controlled automated response to the requesting computing system, wherein sending the response comprises at least one of: sending an unqualified response based on a first response level where the unqualified response is a complete response having no restrictions on use of transferred information; sending a qualified response based on a second response level where the qualified response is a partial response with restrictions on the use of the transferred information, wherein the

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act of sending the qualified response comprises: detecting if use restrictions are to be included with the response sent to the requesting computing system, and attaching a restricted use policy to the response sent to the requesting computing system, the use policy controlling use and further distribution of the response by the requesting computing system; and sending no response based on a third response level.

9. **Claim 20:** The computer storage medium ~~media~~ of claim 19 wherein the computer process further comprises: setting the user policy controlled by the user, the user policy defining parameters for use in controlling a response to be provided as an automated reply to information transfer requests from the requesting computing system.

10. **Claim 21:** The computer storage medium ~~media~~ of claim 19 wherein the response is response information requested by the requesting computing system.

11. **Claim 24** is cancelled.

12. **Claim 25:** The computer storage medium ~~media~~ of claim 19, wherein the act of applying the user policy comprises: comparing user policy parameters with request parameters in the request for information from the requesting computing system; and allocating response information and setting the response level based on the comparison of the user policy parameters with the request parameters.

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13. **Claim 26:** The computer storage medium ~~media~~ of claim 19 wherein the response is authorization for the requesting computing system to send information to the [[user's]] computing system.

14. **Claim 27:** The computer storage medium ~~media~~ of claim 26 further comprising: sending the response based on the response level and sending the response with a notification of restrictions on receipt of the information by the [[user's]] computing system, the restrictions being based on the response level.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

15. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

16. The prior art of record solely or in combination failed to teach the invitation as claimed. For instance the prior art Holtmanns et al nor Heard et al failed to teach "delegating a response based on the response level and sending the response to the requesting computing system, wherein the act of sending the qualified response comprises: detecting if use restriction are to be included with the response sent tot he requesting computer system, and attaching a restricted use policy to the response sent to the requesting computing system, the use policy controlling use and further distribution of the response by the requesting computing system."

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ASGHAR BILGRAMI whose telephone number is (571)272-3907. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Tonia L.M. Dollinger can be reached on 571-272-4170. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/A. B./

Examiner, Art Unit 2443

/J Bret Dennison/

Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2443